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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/727,253

Examiner

Lorna M. Douyon

Applicant(s)

HAFKAMP ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment dated August 22, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6-19 renumbered 1-18 respectively.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Lorna M. Douyon
Lorna M. Douyon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1751

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rimma Mitelman on October 24, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

- 2.1. In claim 1, line 8 (second from last), after "composition", the following phrase has been added:

- and wherein the granules are present in the composition in an amount of from 0.5 to 5 wt%--.

- 2.2. In claim 7, line 1, "claims" has been replaced with --claim--.

- 2.3. In claim 10, lines 2-3, the phrase "0.5 to 5 wt%, preferably from" has been deleted.

- 2.4. In claim 13, line 4 (last line), "10" has been replaced with --15--.

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The incorporation of the limitations of claim 5 into claim 1 renders moot the obviousness rejection over SU 1707058 in view of Madore, or Vermeer in view of Madore. Masschelein, the remaining close prior art is likewise overcome because this reference fails to teach, disclose or

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suggest a particulate laundry detergent composition comprising the recited ingredients, in particular, from 0.5 to 5 wt% of granules comprising an aqueous solution of herbal extract absorbed into and/or adsorbed onto a granular clay carrier, the granules further comprising a colourant whereby the granules are rendered visually distinct from the bulk of the composition. Inasmuch as there is seen no motivation, direction or guidance in Masschelein to pick and choose aloe vera, among a laundry list of stabilizer, absorb it into or adsorb it onto clay, among a list of suitable adjuncts, and add a colourant to form granules, in amounts as those recited, to render it visually distinct from the bulk of the composition, the claims are found to be allowable.

The terminal disclaimer filed on October 24, 2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of copending Application Nos: 10/353,725 and 10/353,724 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

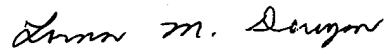
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lorna M. Douyon whose telephone number is (571) 272-1313. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 8:00AM to 4:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Lorna M. Douyon
Primary Examiner
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